

1 BEFORE THE ARIZONA CORPORATION CO..... Arizona Corporation Commission COMMISSIONERS DOCKETED 3 GARY PIERCE - Chairman AUG 1 7 2011 **BOB STUMP** SANDRA D. KENNEDY PAUL NEWMAN DOCKETED BY 5 **BRENDA BURNS** nr 6 DOCKET NO. W-02102B-07-0273 IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF RANCHO DEL CONEJO COMMUNITY WATER CO-OP, INC. FOR APPROVAL OF RATE 8 APPLICATION FOR WATER COMPANIES WITH ANNUAL GROSS OPERATING REVENUES OF LESS THAN \$250,000 PER ARIZONA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE R14-2-103. 10 IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF DOCKET NO. W-02102B-07-0163 11 RANCHO DEL CONEJO COMMUNITY WATER CO-OP, INC. FOR APPROVAL OF DEBT DUE 12 DECISION NO. 72534 TO RANCHO CONEJO COMMUNITY WATER CO-OP INC.'S NEED TO BORROW FUNDS TO 13 INSTALL ARSENIC REMOVAL EQUIPMENT. ORDER EXTENDING TIME **DEADLINE CONTAINED IN** 14 **DECISION NO. 70311** 15 Open Meeting 16 August 11, 2011 Phoenix, Arizona 17 BY THE COMMISSION: 18 19 Having considered the entire record herein and being fully advised in the premises, the 20 Arizona Corporation Commission ("Commission") finds, concludes, and orders that: 21 FINDINGS OF FACT 22 In Decision No. 70311 (April 24, 2008), the Commission approved the rate and 23 1. financing applications of Rancho Del Conejo Community Water Co-op, Inc. ("Rancho" or

Decision No. 70311. Rancho stated that it is in the process of collecting signatures to become a

On May 23, 2011, Rancho docketed a request for an extension of time to comply with

"Company"). As part of Decision No. 70311, the Commission ordered the Company to file a new

rate case by June 1, 2011, using a test year ending December 31, 2010.

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Domestic Water Improvement Distract ("DWID" or "District"). The Company believes that there are advantages of becoming a District including the ability to receive grant money to improve its ailing system.

- 3. The Company hoped to have signatures gathered by June 30, 2011, and to file with the Pima County Assessors Office as soon as possible after that. The Company requested an extension to file a new rate case, if necessary, until after the November 2011 elections.
- 4. On June 30, 2011, the Commission's Utility Division ("Staff") filed a Staff Report recommending an extension of time to file a new rate until June 30, 2012, using a December 31, 2011, test year.
- 5. In the event Rancho becomes a DWID, the Company would no longer be a regulated public service corporation. In such case, Staff states that the Order to file a rate case would become void.
- 6. The Company states that if a rate case is ultimately necessary, it would need at least six months to prepare the rate application.
- 7. Staff does not object to the request for an extension of time to file the rate case, and believes that the Company should have the opportunity to determine whether a District will be formed prior to preparing a rate case. Staff recommends that the extension be granted until June 30, 2012, and that the Company be ordered to utilize a December 31, 2011 test year.
- 8. It is reasonable and appropriate to grant the extension request in order for the Company to determine if it will become a DWID. There is no indication that the public interest will be hurt if the Company is granted an extension to file a new rate case as recommended by Staff. The extra time would be needed to prepare a complete application in the event a District is not formed. Consequently, we find that Staff's recommendation is reasonable and should be granted.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. Rancho is a public service corporation within the meaning of Article XV of the Arizona Constitution and A.R.S. §§ 40-281 and 40-282.
 - 2. The Commission has jurisdiction over Rancho and the subject matter of the request.

3. If Rancho becomes a DWID, it will no longer be subject to Commission regulation as a public service corporation. 4. An extension of time to comply with the requirements of Decision No. 70311, as discussed herein, is fair and reasonable and in the public interest. **ORDER** IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that that the deadline for Rancho Del Conejo Community Water Co-op, Inc. to file a rate case, as required by Decision No. 70311 is extended until June 30, 2012. IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that in the event that Rancho Del Conejo Community Water Co-op, Inc. does not receive approval to become a Domestic Water Improvement District, such that a rate case filing is required, Decision No. 70311 is also modified to require that Rancho Del Conejo Community Water Co-op, Inc. shall utilize a test year of December 31, 2011.

1	IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that in the event Rancho Del Conejo Community Water Co-op,		
2	Inc. receives authority to form a Domestic Water Improvement District, it shall file an application to		
3	cancel its Certificate of Convenience and Necessity prior to June 30, 2012.		
4	IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this Decision shall become effective immediately.		
5	BY ORDER OF THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION.		
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8	CHAIRMAN		
9	Landra S. Kennets Jully Prince France France		
10	COMMISSIONER COMMISSIONER COMMISSIONER		
11	IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I, ERNEST G. JOHNSON,		
12	Executive Director of the Arizona Corporation Commission, have hereunto set my hand and caused the official seal of the		
13	Commission to be affixed at the Capitol, in the City of Phoenix, this 17 m day of August, 2011.		
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15	701		
16	ERNEST G. JOHNSON EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR		
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18	DISSENT		
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20	DISSENT		
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1	SERVICE LIST FOR:	RANCHO DEL CONEJO COMMUNITY	
2		WATER CO-OP, INC.	
3	DOCKET NO.:	W-02102B-07-0273 and W-02102B-07-0163	
4	David H. Putnam, President		
5	RANCHO DEL CONEJO COMMUNITY WATER CO-OP, INC.		
6	13130 West Rudasill Road Tucson, AZ 85743		
7	Janice Alward, Chief Counsel		
8	Legal Division ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSIO	ON	
9	1200 West Washington Street Phoenix, AZ 85007		
10	Steven M. Olea, Director Utilities Division ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION 1200 West Washington Street Phoenix, AZ 85007		
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